
FISCAL TOPICS

Fiscal Services Division

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Community College Property Tax Revenue

Iowa's 15 community college districts are permitted to levy taxes against the value of taxable property within the boundaries of each district. In addition to the General Levy, there are currently eight special purpose levies available to the community colleges under specific circumstances. Six of the nine levies require simple board approval; the three exceptions are noted below.

Property Tax Levies

The following are the levies available to the community colleges and the rate restrictions and statutory authority for each:

- General — to fund the general operation of the community college. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 in valuation. (Iowa Code section [260C.17](#))
- Tort Liability — to fund tort-related settlements. Limited to the amount necessary. (Iowa Code section [296.7](#))
- Insurance — to fund insurance premiums for loss of property, environmental hazards, or other risks. Limited to the amount necessary. (Iowa Code section [296.7](#))
- Unemployment Compensation — to fund unemployment benefits for community college employees. Limited to the amount necessary. (Iowa Code section [96.31](#))
- Early Retirement — to fund early retirement benefits for community college employees. Limited to the amount necessary. (Iowa Code section [279.46](#))
- Equipment — to fund equipment replacement, program sharing, and the purchase of instructional equipment. Limited to \$0.03000 per \$1,000 in valuation for equipment replacement. Board may seek voter approval for an additional \$0.06000 per \$1,000 in valuation for program sharing and instructional equipment. (Iowa Code section [260C.28](#))
- Standby — to secure the payment of certificates for the Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program. Limited to \$0.27000 per \$1,000 in valuation. (Iowa Code section [260E.6](#))
- Facilities — to fund the purchase of grounds, construction of buildings, payment of debts contracted for the construction of buildings, purchase of buildings and equipment for buildings, the acquisition of libraries, the costs of utilities, and the maintenance, remodeling, improvement, or expansion of the community college. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 valuation. Requires voter approval. (Iowa Code section [260C.22](#))
- Bond and Interest — to fund principal and interest on bonds. Limited to the amount necessary. Requires 60.0% voter approval. (Iowa Code section [260C.20](#))

More Information

Department of Management, Community College Resources: dom.iowa.gov/community-colleges

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Current Use of Levies

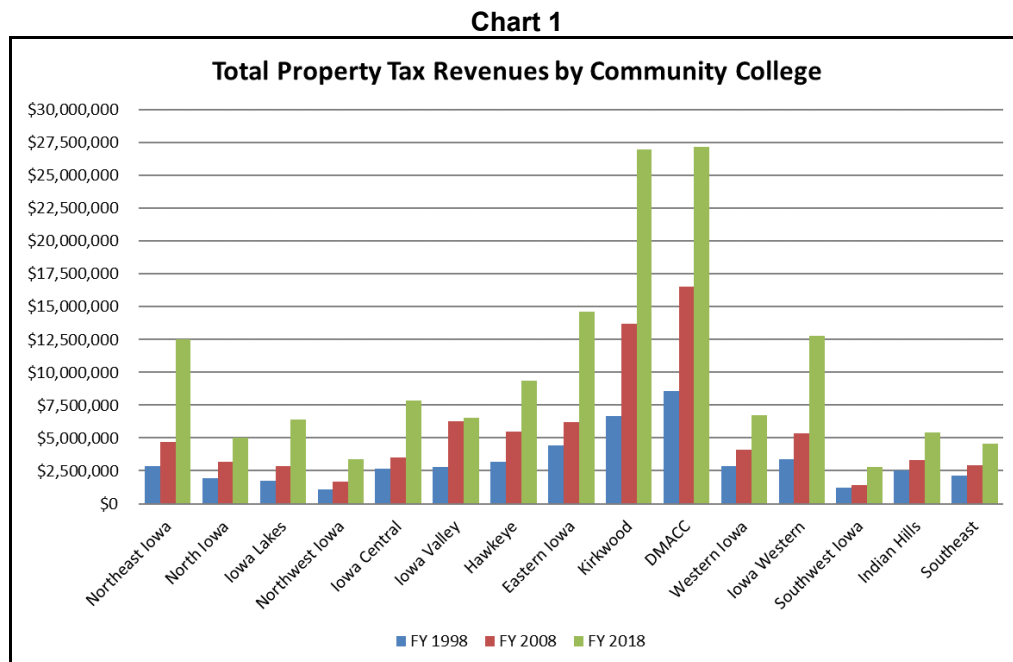
For FY 2019, statewide community college revenue from property tax levies will total \$166.6 million, an increase of 9.5% compared to FY 2018. **Table 1** shows the levy rates for FY 2019 by community college.

Table 1
FY 2019 Community College Property Tax Levy Rates

College	General	Unemployment	Tort Liability	Insurance	Early Retirement	Equipment	Standby	Plant	Bonds/Interest	Total
Northeast Iowa	0.20250		0.02668	0.16090	0.12928	0.09000		0.20250	0.28807	1.09993
North Iowa	0.20250	0.00274	0.01851	0.16146	0.06856	0.09000	0.04676	0.20250		0.79303
Iowa Lakes	0.20250	0.00301	0.04292	0.28764	0.10087	0.09000		0.20250	0.18662	1.11606
Northwest Iowa	0.20250		0.01696	0.17638	0.08480	0.09000	0.02103	0.20250		0.79417
Iowa Central	0.20250	0.00366	0.06829	0.17073	0.39024	0.09000		0.20250	0.20120	1.32912
Iowa Valley	0.20250	0.00206	0.03861	0.24922	0.11176	0.09000		0.20250	0.10003	0.99668
Hawkeye	0.20250	0.00125	0.01562	0.19267	0.06249	0.09000		0.20250	0.25000	1.01703
Eastern Iowa	0.20250	0.00488	0.03687	0.11419	0.14365	0.09000	0.00054	0.20250	0.23487	1.03000
Kirkwood	0.20250	0.00201	0.00518	0.33878	0.11257	0.09000		0.20250	0.25000	1.20354
DMACC	0.20250	0.00161	0.00691	0.10364	0.08752	0.09000		0.20250		0.69468
Western Iowa	0.20250		0.03079	0.43677		0.09000		0.20250		0.96256
Iowa Western	0.20250	0.00351	0.02502	0.17520	0.12709	0.09000		0.20250	0.48295	1.30877
Southwest Iowa	0.20250	0.00908	0.01513	0.27234	0.10500	0.09000		0.20250		0.89655
Indian Hills	0.20250	0.00987	0.08256	0.29451	0.07746	0.09000		0.20250		0.95940
Southeast	0.20250	0.00489	0.08553	0.26932	0.08064	0.09000		0.20250	0.22185	1.15723

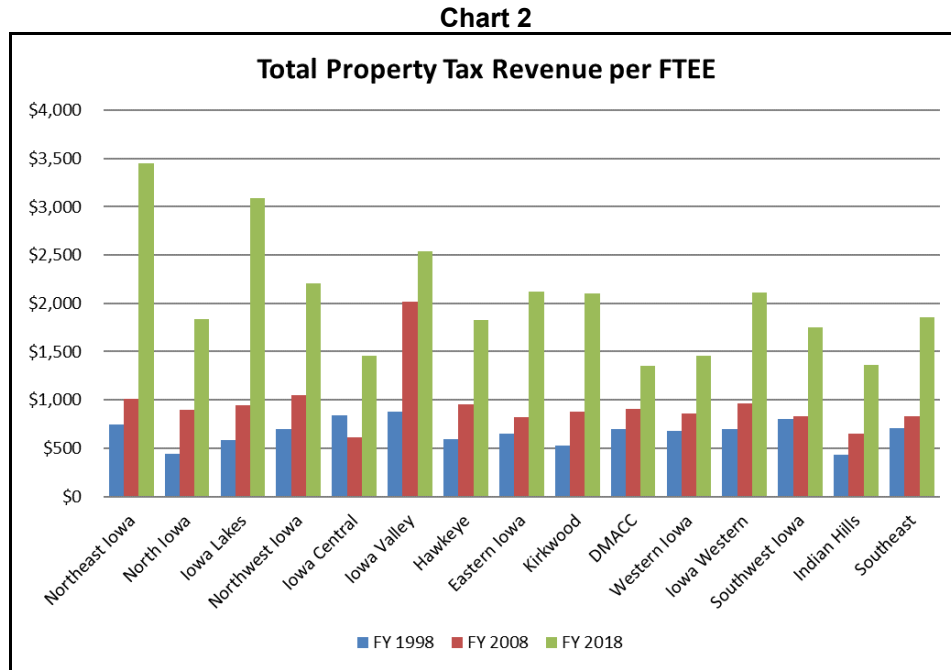
Total Revenue from Levies

Total statewide community college revenue from property tax grew from \$48.2 million in FY 1998 to \$152.2 million in FY 2018. **Chart 1** shows property tax revenue by community college for FY 1998, FY 2008, and FY 2018.



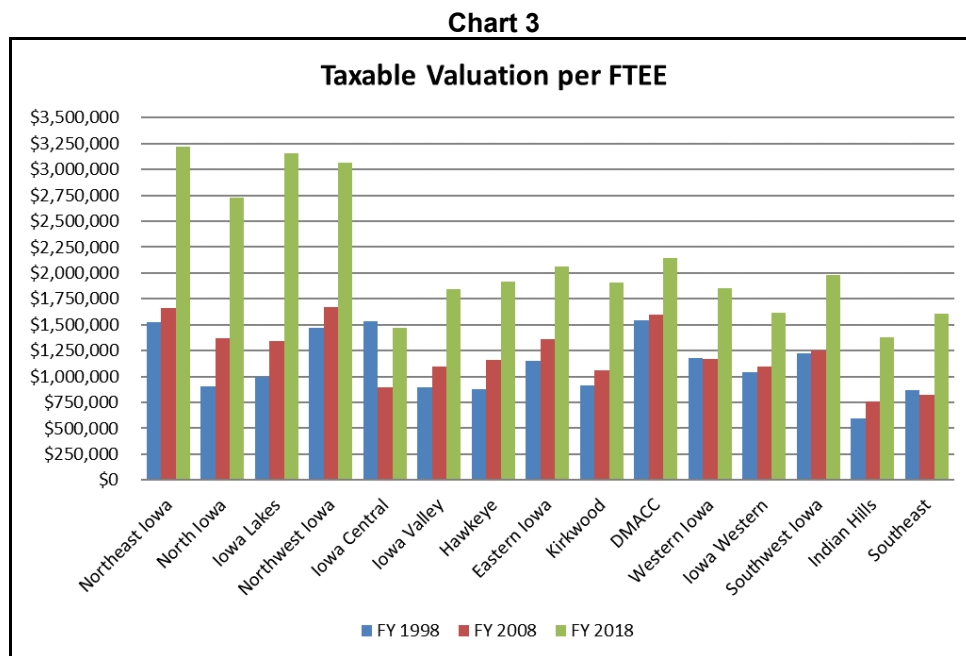
Property Tax Revenue per FTEE

Statewide community college revenue from property tax per full-time equivalent enrollment (FTEE) grew from \$635.73 in FY 1998 to \$1,864.48 in FY 2018. **Chart 2** shows the revenue per FTEE by college for FY 1998, FY 2008, and FY 2018.



Taxable Valuation

Total statewide taxable valuation (excluding utility replacement) increased from \$83.915 billion in FY 1998 to \$165.773 billion in FY 2018. Over the same period, total valuation per FTEE increased from \$1.1 million to \$2.0 million statewide. **Chart 3** shows the taxable valuation per FTEE by community college for FY 1998, FY 2008, and FY 2018.



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